

Message

From: McDonald, Jessica [jessica.mcdonald@factcheck.org]
Sent: 3/29/2019 6:50:41 PM
To: Lippert, Allison [lippert.allison@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: press inquiry from FactCheck.org

Thanks!

From: Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:32 PM
To: McDonald, Jessica <jessica.mcdonald@factcheck.org>
Subject: Re: press inquiry from FactCheck.org

Hi Jessica, our press office in DC is handling these inquiries - I've forwarded your request to them. If you don't hear from someone soon you can contact them at press@epa.gov.

Thanks,

Allison Lippert
 U.S. EPA Region 5
 312-353-0967

On Mar 29, 2019, at 1:28 PM, McDonald, Jessica <jessica.mcdonald@factcheck.org> wrote:

Hello,

I'm a science writer with FactCheck.org. As you're probably aware, President Trump referenced the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative at his rally in Michigan last night.

He said, "I'm going to get, in honor of my friends, full funding of \$300 million for the Great Lakes Restoration initiative, which you've been trying to get for over 30 years."

This appears to run counter to both the President's proposed budgets (which have never proposed the full \$300 million to the initiative) and the fact that the Initiative has received around \$300 million annually since it began in FY2010.

I wanted to confirm the amount of funding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has received with you and also ask if you have any further comment as it relates to this issue.

In particular, because the funding listed out on the [website](#) only covers through FY2017, can you confirm that the best documents to use for FY2018-2020 are the following:

FY2018: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-05/documents/fy-2018-congressional-justification.pdf#page=161>
 FY2019: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-02/documents/fy-2019-congressional-justification-all-tabs.pdf#page=207>
 FY2020: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-03/documents/fy-2020-congressional-justification-all-tabs.pdf#page=217>

Also, just so I'm clear on how the funding works, does all of the GLRI's money come from the EPA? This is implied on your page, but at the same time, it also says, "Since the start of GLRI, EPA has provided

more than half of the funds appropriated to its partner federal agencies.” That would appear to suggest that not all of the funds for the project come from the EPA. Can you clarify how it works?

And a minor point, but I’ve read that the GLRI began in both 2010 and 2009. Can you please clarify (maybe one is a fiscal year)?

I’m on deadline for today, so if you can reply by 5pm EST today, I’d appreciate it.

Thanks,
Jessie

Jessica McDonald
Science Writer, [FactCheck.org](https://factcheck.org)